

National Capital Parks – East

Anacostia Park • Capitol Hill Parks • Carter G. Woodson Home NHS •
Fort Dupont Park • Fort Washington Park • Frederick Douglass NHS •
Greenbelt Park • Kenilworth Park & Aquatic Gardens • Langston Golf
Course • Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS • Oxon Cove Park •
Piscataway Park • Sewall Belmont House and Museum
www.nps.gov/nace (202) 690-5185

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Washington, DC
and Maryland

Calendar of Events – Winter/Spring 2008



National Capital Parks-East offers a wide array of historic, cultural, and recreational areas that are part of Washington, D.C. and its eastern environs. The park is comprised of over 8,000 acres of federal land, ranging from community parks and National Historic Sites to unique wetland ecosystems, meadows, and mature hardwood forests.

EXPLORE & ENJOY

February

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS

Friday Night Films

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

February 1, 8, 22, and 29

202-673-2402

All Ages

Join us to view a series of dynamic and provocative Friday evening films. The films will feature African Americans in various genres that focus on the arts, literacy, political consciousness, and more. Titles include: **Skin Complexion: Black Women On - The Light, Dark Thang; Embracing the Movement – Chisholm '72 Unbought & Unbossed; Black Women in the Arts – The Edge of Each Other's Battles: The Vision of Audre Lords; Financial Services for the African American Community – "Where Wealth Lives."**

Fort Washington Park

Tours of the Fort by the Fort Washington Guard

11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 3

301-763-4600

All Ages

Volunteers in Civil War uniforms will provide tours of the historic fort.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn

Spring Incubation

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

February 1 through June 1

301-839-1176

All Ages

Spring is upon us and it's once again time for our annual incubation program. Each year, in an effort to create agricultural awareness through interactive learning, incubators, fertile eggs, and educational material are distributed to teachers. The program provides insight as to how chicken embryos develop, how to properly care for hatching eggs, and is an opportunity for children to observe the miracle of life first-hand. Contact Ranger Ray Whitacre for more information.

Greenbelt Park – Sweetgum Picnic Area

Invasive Plant Removal

11:00 a.m.

Saturday, February 2

301-344-3944

Ages 8 to Adult

Help make a difference at Greenbelt Park by encouraging native plants to grow. Join in a hands-on nature preservation activity as we pull non-native plants.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn

Dr. George Washington Carver

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Exhibit and Film

February 1 through February 29

301-839-1176

All Ages

Come out and discover a great African American's tribute to agriculture. A video entitled "Carver: Man of Vision," featuring the accomplishments of Dr. George Washington Carver, will be shown throughout the month. An on-going exhibit featuring this great man's life will also be on display in the book store

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn

Ground Hog Day

2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 3

301-839-1176

All Ages

Hear the story of America's most famous ground hog. We will read stories about the small critter and host our own ceremony for this year's prediction of how long winter will last. Will it be two more weeks of cold?

*Greenbelt Park – Ranger Station***Celebrate Black History Month***10:00 a.m.**Saturday, February 9**All Ages*

Discover the story of Charles Young, the first African American superintendent, and his contributions to the National Park Service.

*Frederick Douglass NHS***Frederick Douglass 190th Birthday Celebration***10:00 a.m.**Thursday, February 14**202-426-5961**All Ages*

Come out and join the National Park Service as we celebrate the 190th anniversary of the birthday of the great orator, abolitionist, and spokesman. Human rights activist and Radio One-WOL-AM personality, Joe Madison, known as “The Black Eagle,” will be the keynote speaker. Witness winning orations presented by the 2007 Frederick Douglass Oratorical Contest participants. Musical selections will be performed.

*Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens***Love is in the Air***Visitor Center**10:00 a.m.**Saturday, February 16**202-426-6905**All Ages*

Spring has already sprung! Did you miss it? Come listen for bird mating calls and see what is blooming in the trees that often go unnoticed. Take an easy walk around the lily ponds, weather permitting.

*Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn***“Okra”***1:30 p.m.**Saturday, February 16**301-839-1176**All Ages*

Come to Oxon Hill Farm and learn the cooking techniques and history of “Okra,” a vegetable brought to the new world from Africa via the slave trade. All visitors will receive a free recipe.

*Greenbelt Park – Ranger Station***Celebrate Black History Month***10:00 a.m.**Saturday, February 16**All Ages*

Discover the story of Charles Young, the first African American superintendent, and his contributions to the National Park Service.

*Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn***President’s Day***2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**Sunday, February 17**301-839-1176**Ages 7 to 13*

Join a park ranger on the farm to discuss some of the former presidents of the United States. We will explore the stories of some of the presidents who had an important role in the beginning of our country. Do you know which president had the greatest influence in founding the National Park Service?

*Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens***Beavers in the Spring***Visitor Center**1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.**Sunday, February 17**202-426-6905**All Ages*

Join Park Ranger Kate Bucco to view a video of a baby beaver. After looking at the stuffed beaver on display, we’ll walk to the beaver dam to see how the beavers spent their winter months. What impact do the beavers have on the park? Program canceled in inclement weather.

*Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens***Black Scientist Exhibit***Visitor Center**9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**February 19 through 29**202-426-6905**All Ages*

Come out to view a video and photo display featuring the inventions and contributions African American scientists have made to society.

*Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn***Discovering the Underground Railroad***1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**Saturday, February 23**301-839-1176, R.S.V.P. required**Ages 8 to 12*

Discover what it was like for an enslaved African American to escape along the Underground Railroad in search of freedom. Learn about some of the slaves who used a secret language to help gain their freedom. Participants will receive a packet to earn a Junior Ranger Badge for the Underground Railroad.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Sunday, February 24
301-839-1176, R.S.V.P. required
Ages 7 to 13

**Celebrate African American History
at Mount Welby**

Through discussion, song, and story telling, we will explore the cultural contributions made by the African Americans who lived on Oxon Hill Farm, known as the Mount Welby Plantation in the early 1800’s.

March

Frederick Douglass NHS
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
March 1 through March 31
Ages 13 to Adult

**Women’s History Month Exhibit
“Right is of No Sex”**

This visitor center exhibit will portray the role of Frederick Douglass and the men and women who came together to fight for women’s rights. Learn about Douglass and his dedication to the Women’s Suffrage Movement; from the first women’s rights convention at Seneca Falls in 1848 until his death in 1895.

Greenbelt Park - Sweetgum Picnic Area
11:00 a.m.
Saturday, March 1
301-344-3944
Ages 8 to Adult

Invasive Plant Removal

Help make a difference at Greenbelt Park by encouraging native plants to grow. Join in a hands-on nature preservation activity as we pull non-native plants.

Fort Washington Park
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 2
301-763-4600
All Ages

Tours of the Fort by the Fort Washington Guard

Volunteers in Civil War uniforms will provide tours of the historic fort.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
March 1 through March 31
301-839-1176
All Ages

Women’s History Month Exhibit

Join a park ranger to discuss the accomplishments of women who have made a significant impact on the history of America. We will discuss the contributions of Harriet Tubman, Clara Barton, Sojourner Truth, Mary McLeod Bethune, and more.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 8
301-839-1176
All Ages

River Wildlife and Traveling Trash

Join a park ranger for a scavenger hunt to see what wildlife we can find along the Potomac River. Learn how trash makes its way into the river and what we can do to keep the water clean and safe for wildlife. Wear protective clothing.

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens
Visitor Center
10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Saturday, March 8
202-426-6905
All Ages

March Marsh Madness!

Take a short walk with a park ranger on the boardwalk that overlooks the marsh to observe how plants and water combined make a seasonal home for migratory birds, and a permanent home for muskrat, beaver, fox, and other animals.

Greenbelt Park – Ranger Station
11:00 a.m.
Sunday, March 9
Ages 5 to Adult
301-344-3944, R.S.V.P. required

Meet the Beaver

Join a park ranger as we explore beavers and their habitats.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn
2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 16
301-839-1176
All Ages

Maple Syrup

Try your hand at collecting maple syrup from some of the maple trees out on the farm. We will create our own collection containers and place them on the trees. Make sure to dress warm and wear clothes you are willing to get soiled. Come back to visit us at the farm in May to see how much syrup we were able to collect.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn

Help Celebrate National Agricultural Day

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 20

301-839-1176

All Ages

Come out and meet our park rangers, stationed throughout the farm, and celebrate farm life. Learn fun facts about farms and agriculture.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn

Rabbit Review

1:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 22

301-839-1176

All Ages

Are you receiving a pet bunny for Easter this year? Come and meet rabbit breeders and learn about the proper care and handling of your pet rabbit.

Fort Washington Park

Laundresses at Fort Washington

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday March 22 and Saturday, March 29

Talks held every 30 minutes

301-763-4600

All Ages

Laundry day has never been fun. The military laundresses of Fort Washington needed strong hands and strong backs in the 19th century. Before the modern inventions of washing machines and indoor plumbing, military laundresses cleaned the laundry by their sweat and toil. Lye soap, scrub boards, and pails of water were a few of the tools of their trade. Join Park Guide Bambi Sears as she tells the history of these women.

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS

Bethune Lecture

Time: TBA

Thursday, March 27

202-673-2402

All Ages

Come and hear a lecture by academic scholar, historian, and distinguished professor, Dr. Frankie Hutton. The theme for the lecture is, “**Women’s Art, Women’s Vision.**” Dr. Hutton recently taught American and African American history at Howard University and Bowie State University and is the author of The Early Black Press in America and co-author of Outsiders in 19th Century Press History.

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens

Children’s Stories

Visitor Center

10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, March 29

202-426-5961

Ages 5 to 13

Join Park Ranger Deborah Kirkley as she reads nature stories and explores the life of animals.

Greenbelt Park – Ranger Station

A Tribute to Wilma Rudolph

10:00 a.m.

Sunday, March 30

301-344-3944, R.S.V.P. required

All Ages

Celebrate Women’s History Month and discover the inspiring story of Wilma Rudolph, the first American woman to win three gold medals in one Olympics.

April

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn

Insects & Spiders Exhibit

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

April 1 through April 30

301-839-1176

All ages

There are insects and spiders of all colors and sizes. Come and discover their origin and see where they live on the farm. The exhibit is located in the Visitor Barn book store.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn

Special Wagon Rides

10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

301-839-1176

All Ages

Come out and take a wagon ride through the park and enjoy the natural settings of the farm land.

Fort Washington Park – Visitor Center

Spring Has Sprung Exhibit

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

April 1 through April 30

301-763-4600

All Ages

The exhibit will introduce the spring residents of Fort Washington Park.



April 5th – Volunteer in the Park You Love



Fort Washington Park

20th Annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

301-763-4600

All Ages

Join your neighbors in cleaning up the shores of Fort Washington Park. Please wear long pants, long-sleeved shirts, and work boots.

Fort Washington Park

Park Day

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

301-763-4600

Ages 8 to Adult

Volunteer to assist the staff in removing debris from the casemates of historic Fort Washington. Please dress appropriately. Meet at the park’s visitor center.

Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn

20th Annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

301-839-1176, R.S.V.P. required

All Ages

Volunteers will join forces with a park ranger in caring for our valuable natural resources. Wear sturdy shoes and work clothes, and bring lots of energy. Participate in this event and earn community service credits.

Greenbelt Park

20th Annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup

Sweetgum Picnic Area

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.,

301-344-3944, R.S.V.P. required

All Ages

Join us to help clean up our part of the Potomac Watershed. Wear appropriate clothing.

Greenbelt Park – Sweetgum Picnic Area

Invasive Plant Removal

11:00 a.m.

301-344-3944

Ages 8 to Adult

Help make a difference at Greenbelt Park by encouraging native plants to grow. Join in a hands-on nature preservation activity as we pull non-native plants.

Fort Washington Park

Artillery Training Day

10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 6,

301-763-4600

All Ages

On this first day of the season’s artillery demonstrations, volunteers learn and refresh their memories on the proper procedures on how to load and fire the park’s Civil War cannons. Cannon firing throughout the day.

Fort Washington Park

Lantern Tour

6:30p.m. to 9:00p.m.

Saturday, April 12

301-763-4600

All Ages

See Fort Washington as it appeared in 1861. Join the Fort Washington Guard for evening tours of the historic fort. Tours leave the visitor center every 30 minutes, last tour leaves at 8:30 p.m.

Frederick Douglass NHS

Emancipation Day Celebration

Douglass Home front porch

1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 16

202-426-5961, R.S.V.P. required

All Ages

Join the Anacostia Community Museum at the Frederick Douglass NHS for a living history presentation. Witness actors bring Douglass to life at Cedar Hill, final home of the famed abolitionist. Reservations are encouraged.





National Park Week



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| <i>Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn</i> 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. <i>Saturday, April 19</i> 301-839-1176 <i>All Ages</i> Celebrate National Park Week with a park ranger at Oxon Hill farm. Everyone is invited to join in the story telling hour. Bring photos of your trips to America’s national parks. Want to know the story of how America came to be the first nation with national parks? Join us to find out some history of the National Park Service and discuss some of America’s favorite parks. | Celebrate National Park Week |
| <i>Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS</i> 12:00 p.m. <i>April 19 through April 27</i> 202-673-2402 <i>All Ages</i> Come out and hear a park ranger discuss the rich and diverse history found in local and national parks. Explore National Park sites connected to the Civil Rights era and women’s history. Throughout the week, presentations will cover the history of the National Park Service, the arrowhead as our national symbol, and our role as stewards of American history. | Arrowhead Talks |
| <i>Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn</i> 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. <i>Sunday, April 20</i> 301-839-1176 <i>All Ages</i> Join us in celebrating Earth Day by creating a craft using recycled materials. Discover how to help our planet by reusing materials to reduce waste. | Recycled Art |
| <i>Greenbelt Park – Ranger Station</i> 1:00 p.m. <i>Sunday, April 20</i> 301-344-3944, R.S.V.P. required <i>All Ages</i> Celebrate National Park Week by exploring the how the U.S. Army helped to preserve the very first parklands. | How the U.S. Army helped National Parks |
| <i>Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn</i> 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., <i>Saturday April 26</i> 301-839-1176 <i>All Ages</i> Come and celebrate National Junior Ranger Day by supporting our youngest preschool junior rangers at a ceremony as they complete the program and are sworn in as Oxon Cove Park Junior Rangers, presented with badges, and given certificates. | Tiny Tots Junior Ranger Finale |
| <i>Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens</i> <i>Visitor Center</i> 8:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. <i>Saturday, April 26</i> 202-426-6905 <i>All Ages</i> Join us to help improve the environment at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. We will provide boots, gloves, and tools. A parent or guardian is required for children ages 10 and under. This event will be held rain or shine. | Earth Day Event – Volunteers Needed |
| <i>Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn</i> 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. <i>Sunday, April 27</i> 301-839-1176 <i>All Ages</i> Did you ever wonder what a strange looking piece of farm equipment was used for? Take a walking tour and learn how technology has changed from horse to machine power. | Historical Farm Equipment Display |
| <i>Oxon Cove Park – Visitor Barn</i> 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., <i>Saturday, April 26</i> 301-839-1176, R.S.V.P. required <i>Ages 8-12</i> Explore how the letters of Mrs. Debutts, the mistress of Mount Welby, has given insight on what life was like during the early 1800’s on the Mount Welby Plantation. We will also explore how women have used their personal writings as a way to assert themselves in a world that seemed to have no place for them. | Women and the Power of the Pen |